

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Van Buren/Cass District Health Department Announces Flu Clinic Schedule Stay protected by getting your flu shot

Lawrence, MI - As the leaves begin to fall and temperatures drop, Van Buren/Cass District Health Department (VBCDHD) is reminding residents of the importance of getting their annual flu vaccine. In an effort to protect the health and well-being of our community, VBCDHD is pleased to announce its upcoming flu vaccine clinics for the season.

Influenza, commonly known as the flu, is a contagious respiratory illness that can cause mild to severe symptoms and even lead to hospitalization or death. Each year, the flu affects millions of people, with the potential to strain healthcare resources and disrupt daily life. Getting vaccinated against the flu is an extra protection to fight flu, and is a highly effective way to reduce the risk of infection, protect yourself and others, and contribute to the overall health and resilience of our community.

"I am often asked, 'Does the flu shot work?' or I am told by someone that it doesn't work because either they or a friend or family member got the flu even though they received the flu vaccine. We do know that the effectiveness of the flu vaccine varies from year to year. The medical community evaluates vaccine effectiveness not only in terms of preventing illnesses but also in preventing serious outcomes, such as emergency department visits and hospitalizations. Research shows that flu vaccination reduces the risk of serious outcomes in people who, despite being vaccinated, still get sick. Based on this criteria, the answer to the question 'Does the flu shot work?' is yes," says VBCDHD Medical Director Dr. Larry Wile.

VBCDHD is proud to play a part in safeguarding our community's health. We look forward to welcoming you at our upcoming flu vaccine clinics. Together, we can take proactive measures to prevent the spread of the flu and protect the well-being of our community. The schedule for upcoming flu clinics are as follows;

Tuesday October 17, 2023 Senior Services of Van Buren County 12:30 – 1:30 pm 501 E Main St, HARTFORD Call SSVBC @ 1.866.627.8904 to schedule.

Wednesday October 18, 2023 Antwerp Senior Services 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm ANTWERP ACTIVITY CENTER. Call Antwerp Senior Services @ 269.668.2615 ext. 208 to schedule.

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Friday October 20, 2023 Cass Co. COA – FRONT STREET CROSSING 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Call COA @ 269.228.5511 to schedule.

Friday October 20, 2023 Covert Harvest Festival 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm COVERT TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT. Schedule online or phone 269.621.3143 "0" to schedule.

For more information about flu vaccine clinics, including specific dates, locations, and other details, please visit our website at https://vbcassdhd.org/medical/predominant-diseases/flu/. To make an appointment at the health department, please call 269-621-3143.

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